

their lives. I mention those two topics by way of illustration. It would be an interesting convention could it be so that we could hear a true representative of each and every field of work and every avenue of want tell their own story and declare their own peculiar needs. When we learn to go about the Master's work in as sensible a way as business men of the world pursue theirs we will meet as great success, and we can reasonably hope to see as deep an interest on the part of the general membership of the church in her great work as stock-holders in worldly enterprises show in theirs and not until then. "Verily, the children of the world in their generation are wiser than the children of light." But notwithstanding the blunders, and incongruities, anomalies, etc., I praise the Lord for his rich blessings on the labors of his faithful workers which may I say, come upon us in spite of ourselves. Praise his name.

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The Dayton Work

On June 23, I started from home for the city of Dayton, where much interest has been manifested by the Ohio churches, in the last few years, and to where the attention of our last state conference, was so prominently directed.

The work in the city of Dayton, has had its seasons of prosperity as well as seasons of adversity, and in the last few months, our people there, who number about eighty, yet, have neither had a preacher to minister to their spiritual wants, nor a house to worship in. But God opened the way, as He always did for His people of old, and always does for His people now, if we are only willing to follow where He leadeth.

The Brethren had a splendid opportunity to buy a church located on a beautiful street, just such a church as we need in the city of Dayton. The church is built of brick, and the main audience room is, I think, 65 x 45 ft. with two good sized side rooms with folding doors, a small kitchen is also attached, with a pump in it, just the thing for Love-feast purposes. The church has a splendid furnace and is lighted by gas.

There are two lots, the one on which the church stands and another that has been used for hitching purposes, right side of the church, and which can be used for a parsonage some day.

The whole church is carpeted and taking all in all is a beautiful and commodious structure. This beautiful church and two lots we pay but \$ 2,800.00 for, and it is estimated that the lots are worth \$ 1,400 00 which certainly gives us a cheap church.

The only trouble with the whole thing is to get money enough to pay for it. All the rest of this blessed enterprise is exceedingly beautiful and pleasant. But the money will come by and by. Seven hundred and fifty-five dollars and seventy-five cents has been subscribed, One hundred and eighteen dollars was subscribed by the Miamisburg church, seventy-five by the Winchester

church and ten by David Wampler of West Alexandria, the rest was about all given by the Dayton church, with the exception of twenty dollars by Henry Murr, and three dollars by Simon Oakes and family of the Bear Creek church. It must be said that our Dayton people as well as our people at Miamisburg and Winchester did remarkably well and if we can succeed in getting a few more of our Ohio churches to take hold of the work in good earnestness, as did those other church referred to, then the work in the city of Dayton will soon be firmly established.

I hope to be able to report the \$ 1,000.00 raised by August 1st which will, I think place the Dayton work on a firm footing.

Of course the work there will require much prayer, hard work and good leadership, just like every where, but with these I firmly believe that the Dayton church will in a few years become a strong church.

J. L. KIMMEL.

The Sunday School

LESSON 6—AUGUST 5, 1900

Jesus and the Children—Matt. 18:1-14

Golden Text.—Suffer the little children to come unto me, and forbid them not; for of such is the kingdom of God.—Mark 10:14.

Lesson Thought.—It is a fearful thing to lead the innocent and the trusting into sin.

Time.—Not long after the transfiguration, in the autumn of 29.

Place.—Capernaum, a town near the northwest shore of the Sea of Galilee.

Persons.—Jesus, the disciples and a little child.

Home Readings

Mark 9:33-42; Matt. 20:20-28; Prov. 16:16 25; I Pet. 5:1-7; Phil. 2:1-18; Mark 10:13 16.

Lesson Links

The glory of the transfiguration was past. Jesus and the three descended from the mountain. As they came within sight of the other disciples a multitude was around them. A man had brought to them his lunatic son and because of their lack of faith they were unable to cure him. Jesus rebuked them and healed the boy after calling out the father's faith. There were scribes in the crowd who had come from Capernaum and thus Jesus was discovered in his retirement. In consequence he now set his face southward.

At Capernaum Jesus bids Peter get a piece of money out of the fish's mouth to pay the tribute money. And again Jesus foretells his own death. Then occurred the event which drew out the event of today,—the dispute among the disciples as to who should be greatest.

The Lesson Story

Coming down to Capernaum from the Mt. of Transfiguration the disciples disputed among themselves as to which of them was greatest in the kingdom. Jesus knew their thoughts. After they reached Capernaum they came to Jesus in the house and put the question in dispute to the Master.

The Greatness of Child Character.—Jesus answered their question by calling unto himself a little child and setting it in the midst of them all. And then he said to them, "I truly say to you, Except ye be changed (converted) and become as little children, ye shall in no wise enter into the kingdom of heaven." The absence of self-seeking rather than its presence is necessary to make one fit for citizenship in that kingdom. The child-like spirit and character is essential for those who would be members of the kingdom of heaven. The chief characteristic Jesus referred to was the humility of the child,— "Whosoever, therefore, shall humble himself as this little child the same is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." And the other characteristic of child-nature can also well be sought by us Christians, such as, (1) the faith that absolutely believes the parent's promises, (2) the perfect, simple love that casts out all fear, (3) the trust that relies so calmly upon the care of those who love, (4) the utter lack of egotism and self-consciousness and (5) the sweet cheerful helpfulness born of implicit faith and trust.

The Love of Children.—Jesus went on to lay down a principle which should judge the characters of men thru all ages,—the love of children as a test of character. To Jesus the man or woman who would receive with love and in Christ's name such a little child, whether their own, a foundling or a child in Christ, also received Him. Blessed thought! In Christ's view the man or woman who did not love children was lacking a very important part of character. O, how the love of these little ones has glorified earth's homes and made them dreams of heaven! How often in the home has the wolf of human depravity dwelt with the lamb of meek innocence, and lo! a little child has led them in paths of peace to righteousness and God! Despise them not, O, brethren. They are types of heaven's fairest citizens and they are the angels of such which stand closest to God.

Causes of stumbling.—From declaring the blessedness of those who receive in His name a little child Jesus passes to a declaration of the curse that rests on him who causes "one of these little ones which believe on me to stumble." Jesus says it would be profitable—note the word,—for such a one to have one of the great mill stones, which were turned by an ass, hung about his neck and himself sunk with it in the depths of the sea. Death to the innocent is nothing, but life to him who causes a soul to stumble is a living death. It is more profitable for a man to die than to offend a child-like soul.

How careful then we should be! O, Sunday-school scholars, this verse is for you. It shows how great is your responsibility, how awful the calamity of a misstep of yours. Have a care lest a word of yours, or your example should start a young soul down rather than up!

It is a sad thing for the world that occasions of stumbling do exist, but the curse rests, nevertheless, on the man who causes

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